

IN THE CLAIMS

A marked up version of the revised claims, showing insertions and deletions, is included in Appendix B. Please cancel claim 18 and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A golf ball having three or more concentrically disposed layers, which comprises:

a core of at least one layer comprising at least one resilient elastomeric material;
a hoop-stress layer wound or wrapped about the core comprising at least one hoop-stress material having a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater and a first cross-sectional area, wherein a binding material is applied to the at least one hoop-stress material and activated to increase first cross-sectional area by about 5 percent or greater; and
an outermost thermoset material of at least one layer disposed about the hoop-stress layer.

8. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the at least one hoop-stress material has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.

19. (Amended) A golf ball having four or more concentrically disposed layers, which comprises:

a core of at least one layer comprising at least one resilient elastomeric material;
a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one wound material, having a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater, disposed about the core, wherein the at least one wound material forming the hoop-stress layer has a first cross-sectional area and is coated with a binding material prior to winding to create a second cross-sectional area greater than the first; and
an outermost thermoset material of at least one layer, having a dimpled outer surface, disposed about the hoop-stress layer.

20. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 19, wherein the at least one wound material has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.

25. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 19, wherein the at least one layer of an outermost thermoset material has a hardness of about 30 to about 80 Shore D.

Please add the following new claims:

26. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the binding material is activated by heat, pressure, chemical treatment, photo-activation, or a combination thereof.

27. [✓] (New) A golf ball comprising:

a core comprising at least one resilient elastomeric material;
a hoop-stress layer disposed about the core comprising at least one strand having a first cross-sectional area;
a binding material applied to the at least one strand to increase the first cross-sectional area by about 5 percent or greater; and
a cover comprising at least one thermoset material.

28. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater.

29. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the binding material is activated by heat, pressure, chemical treatment, photo-activation, or a combination thereof.

30. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the binding material is activated after the hoop-stress layer is disposed about the core.

31. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the hoop-stress material comprises at least one shape memory alloy having a specific gravity of about 7.6 or greater.

32. [✓] (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the at least one thermoset material comprises polybutadiene, natural rubber, styrene butadiene rubber, isoprene, urethane, or combinations thereof.

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33. (New) The golf ball of claim 27, wherein the cover has a hardness of about 40 to about 75 Shore D.